

**For Immediate Release  
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## **City of Columbus Pre-Paid Cards For New Smart Parking Meters To Go On Sale March 1**

Pre-paid parking cards for the city of Columbus' new smart parking meters will go on sale to motorists beginning Tuesday, March 1. The pre-paid cards give motorists another convenient way to pay for parking at the new meters in addition to credit cards, debit cards and coins.

Motorists will have two choices when purchasing the new pre-paid parking cards for use on the new smart meters:

- Rechargeable cards that carry a maximum balance of \$50. After drawing down the balance to pay for parking at the new smart meters, motorists can put additional dollars up to \$50 on the cards by visiting the Parking Violations Bureau at the city's Impound Lot at 2700 Impound Lot Road
- Non-rechargeable cards available in denominations of \$25, \$50 and \$100 that can be discarded after the entire balance is used. Non-rechargeable card users are encouraged to dispose of the used cards at any recycling location.

The City will continue to sell pre-paid parking meter cards that will work in only the old meters; these cards will not work in the new smart meters. Pre-paid meter cards for the old meters will carry a maximum balance of \$50.

Pre-paid parking meters cards for either the smart meters or old meters will be sold at 109 North Front Street, room 301, and at the Parking Violations Bureau at the City's Impound Lot at 2700 Impound Lot Road. Both versions of the parking meter cards can be purchased with cash or credit cards. The smart meter cards will feature a colorful photo of Columbus' skyline, while the cards for use in the old meters will be white. Due to newer technology, the new meter cards will not work in the old meters. A customer can transfer the balance on their old meter card to a new smart meter card free-of-charge by visiting the Parking Violations Bureau at 2700 Impound Lot Road.

In January, Department of Public Service staff installed the first 987 new smart meters that replaced the old meters in the Arena and Brewery Districts, Gay Street, Grandview Avenue and the North Market and Short North areas. In addition, installation of 500 refurbished old meters is underway in locations that currently do not have meters, including the Short North, the Brewery District, downtown, Italian Village and city streets immediately east of The Ohio State University. The installation will be completed in April, bringing the City's meter fleet to more than 4,600 meters. The 500 refurbished old meters will then be upgraded to new smart meters this summer. The City plans to install about 1,000 additional new smart meters annually until the City's entire fleet of meters has been replaced with smart meters.